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REMARKS

Examiner Mai is thanked for his thorough search and Office Action. Reconsideration of the rejection of all claims is respectfully requested. We wish to comment on his remarks as follows:

Reconsideration is requested of all rejections based on 35 U.S.C. 103:

Examiner has cited three references that teach molding a feedstock around a disposable body, firing the feedstock, and then removing said body. Each of these references teaches a different method for removing the body:

(i) Barros et al. teach causing the body to disintegrate into a fine powder and then blowing out the last remnants,

(ii) Hens et al. teach dissolving the body in water,

and (iii) Goto et al. teach melting the body.

The present invention claims three different methods for the removal of the disposable body. These are vaporization (claims 3, 8, and 13), ash-free combustion (claims 3, 8, and 13), and dissolving in a non-aqueous solvent (claims 4, 9, and 14).

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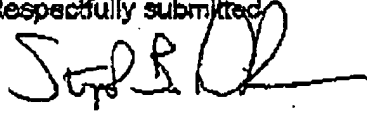
Vaporization and ash-free combustion are better suited to mass production than melting or particulate blowing since the samples need not be tilted or shaken. This is particularly important for situations such as MEMS products where individual units are too small to be handled separately.

Limiting claims 4, 9, and 14 to non-aqueous solvents means that Hens et al. no longer reads on them since that invention is limited to aqueous solutions. We note that most of the materials that are mentioned by the present invention as being suitable for use in disposable bodies require non-aqueous solvents.

In conclusion, we again thank Examiner Mai for his careful reading of our application. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Allowance of all Claims is requested. It is also requested that should Examiner Mai not find that the Claims are now Allowable, he should please call the undersigned Attorney at (845)-452-5863 to overcome any problems preventing Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the claims:

Please amend the following claims:

3. The process of claim 1 wherein said disposable material is disposed of through [melting or] vaporization or ash-free combustion.
4. The process of claim 1 wherein said disposable material is disposed of through attack by a non-aqueous solvent.
8. The process of claim 6 wherein said disposable material is disposed of through [melting or] vaporization or ash-free combustion.
9. The process of claim 6 wherein said disposable material is disposed of through attack by a non-aqueous solvent.
13. The process of claim 11 wherein said disposable material is disposed of through [melting or] vaporization or ash-free combustion.

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14. The process of claim 11 wherein said disposable material is disposed of through attack by a non-aqueous solvent.